

Remarks

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the final Office Action mailed August 8, 2003. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims.

Applicants' Claims are Allowable Over *Davis*

The Examiner rejects Claims 1-18, 20-29, and 31-35 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,742,829 to Davis et al. ("*Davis*"). The Examiner also rejects Claims 19, 30, and 36-38 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Davis*.

The Examiner states, with respect to Applicants' last Response, that "Applicant argued that the cited prior arts teach away from the claimed invention and fails to teach the combination of claimed features." Applicants respectfully note that, in Applicants' last Response, Applicants argued only that *Davis* fails to disclose, teach, or suggest at least certain limitations recited in Applicants' claims, whether *Davis* is considered alone or in combination with any other cited reference or with knowledge that was available to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention. Applicants have not taken a position regarding whether *Davis* teaches away from Applicants' claims.

Despite the Examiner's assertions to the contrary, Applicants respectfully maintain that *Davis* fails to disclose, teach, or suggest ***managing configuration of an operating system of a network client***, as recited in Applicants' independent Claims 1, 9, 17, 22, and 29. The Examiner asserts that, in *Davis*, "determining and managing the configuration of the network client are carried out." However, even assuming for the sake of argument that this were true, *Davis* would still fail to disclose, teach, or suggest managing configuration of an operating system of the network client. Applicants reiterate that *Davis* merely discloses installing, at heterogeneous client computers, appropriate editions of software for execution with particular operating system types. Nowhere does *Davis* even suggest managing the configuration of those operating systems.

For at least these reasons, Applicants' independent Claims 1, 9, 17, 22, and 29 are patentably distinct from *Davis*, whether *Davis* is considered alone or in combination with any other cited reference or with knowledge that was generally available to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of Applicants' independent Claims 1, 9, 17, 22, and 29 and all their dependent claims.

Conclusion

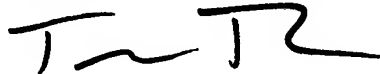
For the foregoing reasons, and for other reasons clearly apparent, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and full allowance of all pending claims.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would advance prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney for Applicants, Travis W. Thomas, at the convenience of the Examiner. Mr. Thomas can be reached at 214.953.6676.

Applicants believe no fees are due. Nonetheless, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee and credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 05-0765 of Electronic Data Systems Corporation.

Respectfully submitted,

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